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Date: September 29, 2006

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Quyen Nguyen)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/615,491

Confirmation No.: 8889

Filing Date: July 7, 2003

Inventor(s): Bryan LOOMAS et al.

Title: EXTRAPLEURAL AIRWAY DEVICE AND METHOD

Examiner: P. Vrettakos

Group Art Unit: 3739

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated June 29, 2006 for which a response is due on September 29, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.